

Maternal and Child Health Potential Role of New TB Vaccines



TB Impacts Maternal and Child Health

- Tuberculosis is a leading killer of women, particularly in their reproductive years. It is the third leading cause of death globally among women aged 15-44. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), in 2009, 3.3 million women became sick with TB disease and 380,000 women died from the disease.
- Once infected, women of reproductive age are more susceptible to developing TB disease than men of the same age.
- Active TB disease hampers a mother's ability to care for her family and robs many children of their mothers.
- Although the current BCG vaccine against TB does prevent tens of thousands of non-pulmonary TB deaths in infants and children each year, it does not provide reliable protection against TB of the lungs, which is the most common and infectious form of the disease. BCG is not recommended for us in infants infected with HIV due to the risk of severe BCG related complications.
- Children are usually infected by those around them - including their parents and caregivers – and are more likely than adults to develop active TB because their immune systems are less developed.



TB Vaccines Promote Maternal and Child Health

- Vaccines will reduce a child's exposure to TB within families, which is the primary means of transmission to children. Additionally, preventing TB disease in a mother is a direct benefit both to her and to her children, who would otherwise suffer when their mother is ill and unable to provide care.
- Aeras and our partners are working to develop TB vaccines that are safe and effective for people of all ages, including those living with HIV, including an improved recombinant BCG (rBCG) that would be more immunogenic and safer in infants infected with HIV than the current BCG vaccine.

Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation



- Aeras is dedicated to the development of effective TB vaccine regimens that will prevent TB infection in all age groups, will be safe for use in people with HIV and will be affordable, available and adopted worldwide.
- Aeras is a global non-profit research organization working as a Product Development Partnership with scientists, academic and research institutions, industry, foundations, and governments throughout the world to ensure rapid development and ample vaccine distribution to eliminate TB.
- Aeras has assembled the broadest TB vaccine product pipeline in the world. With its partners in Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America, Aeras has developed or supported the development of six TB vaccine candidates. Five TB vaccine candidates are in Phase I/Phase II/Ib human trials.

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